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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/901,305	07/09/2001	Wayne Anderson	P-14 (n) CIP / CONT	8578
28752	7590	09/29/2004	EXAMINER	
LACKENBACH SIEGEL, LLP LACKENBACH SIEGEL BUILDING 1 CHASE ROAD SCARSDALE, NY 10583			MEISLIN, DEBRA S	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			3723	

DATE MAILED: 09/29/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/901,305

Applicant(s)

ANDERSON ET AL.

Examiner

Debra S Meislin

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 20 August 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 92,95,102,103 and 107-111 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 92,95,102,103 and 107-111 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

1. Claims 102-103, 107-109 and 111 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Claims 102 and 103 are redundant in view of claim 92.

In claims 107 and 111, "slidably receive the sleeve" appears to be misdescriptive. As best understood, "slidably receive the sleeve" should be --pivotally receive the sleeve--. Additionally, "the second handle is not" is not understood. Note that the sleeve has been previously defined as being pivoted to the first handle and movable into the first handle in a stored position. Consequently, a recitation directed to the second handle is not understood.

In claims 108 and 109, "said pliers" lacks antecedent basis.

In claim 108, "said pliers being non-pivotally connected to said handles" is misdescriptive since a pliers jaw is pivotally connected to one of the handles and the other pliers jaw is pivotally connected to the other one of the handles. Note that the drawings disclose a first handle fixedly connected to a first jaw and a second handle fixedly connected to a second jaw, wherein the first handle and jaw is pivotally connected to the second handle and jaw.

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

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3. Claims 92, 95, 97 and 102-111 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Harrison et al (6,009,582) in view of Beran (2,980,996), Park (5,280,659) and Dahlquist or Esquire.

Figure 17 of Harrison et al discloses all of the claimed subject matter except for a closed-ended sleeve being non-removably connected to the handle, the sleeve being pivotable to an inoperative position between the handle sides, the bit in the sleeve being stored in the handle, the bit being double-ended, and the handles being asymmetrical. Beran discloses a sleeve (36 or 51) having a closed end formed as a flat wall non-removably connected to the handle and being pivotable to an inoperative position between the handle sides. It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art to form the sleeve of Harrison et al with a closed end formed as a flat wall non-removably connected to the handle and being pivotable to an inoperative position between the handle sides to store the sleeve out of the way and such it may be readily available for use in a single device as taught by Beran. Note column 1, lines 28-36 and column 4, lines 37-47 which state the following:

It is accordingly a particular object of the present invention to provide in one unit or one device a combination of different tools or implements which are associated with one another so that they may be readily selected for use but wherein the various tools or implements are also so assembled or connected together that when one is in use the others are covered or shielded and are out of the way and will not interfere with or hamper the user.

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From the foregoing it will be seen that there is provided by the present invention a combination tool of new and novel construction which provides in addition to
40 the several cutting implements which are pivoted to be closed in the slots of the body, the novel handle body side plates in the form of rasps or cutting implements, and the novel pivoted adapters which facilitate the easy removal and replacement of the cutting implements and
45 which when attached to the cutting implements form an integral part thereof to be closed with the implements in the receiving slots.

Beran further discloses tool implements (42 or 56) within the sleeves (36 or 51) for storage within the handle. It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art to form the device of Harrison et al such that the tool implement and sleeve thereof are stored within the handle to allow for the storage of the tool implement within the handle for storage out of the way and such it may be readily available for use in a single device as taught by Beran. Note column 1, lines 28-36 and column 4, lines 37-47, above.

Park discloses a double-ended tool bit (33). It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art to form the bit of Harrison et al as double-ended to allow for added versatility to improve efficiency as taught by Park. See figure 5 of Park and column 1, lines 5-42 which state the following:

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The present invention relates to a manual tool, and more particularly to a multipurpose manual tool which used in many kinds of works so as to improve the operation efficiency. 5

Manual tools are generally used in pounding, stripping a covering, fixing, cutting or turning a work material and the like. 10

A hammer is used as a pounding tool. A nipper and scissors are used as stripping and cutting tools. A vice is used as a fixing tool. Plier, wrench and screwdriver are used as turning tools. 15

These tools are selectively used according to the kinds of works, and have been manufactured individually.

Thus, in case of using a certain tool, if all of the above tools are not prepared, the work can not be performed or can not help being delayed. 20

Furthermore, it is difficult to carry all of them in one keeping box due to the weight of the tools and also it is easy to lose them during keeping or using.

In addition, it is not easy to prepare all of these tools owing to the economic burden. 25

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

An object of the present invention is to provide a multipurpose tool which performs various kinds of works conveniently and quickly, and which is easy to keep and carry. 30

Another object of the present invention is to provide a multipurpose tool which is inexpensive and thus can be used as a house hold tool. 35

According to the present invention, the multipurpose tool comprises a pair of movable members having handle sections at one end thereof and working edges which are crisscross with each other and being hinged together by a pin, and four working stations having the working edges, the working edges being folded or unfolded about the pivot pin. 40

Dahlquist or Esquire disclose asymmetrical handles including a first storage handle having a larger cross-dimension than the second handle. The first handle pivotally receives tools and the second handle does not receive any tools. The first and second handles with jaws attached thereto are pivotally attached with a single pivot. It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art to form the device of

Harrison et al with asymmetrical handles pivoted to each other with tools attached to one of the handles to provide a slim, economized tool as taught by Dahlquist or Esquire.

4. Applicant's remarks filed August 20, 2004 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive. The claims read on the applied references as discussed above.

5. The status of the parent applications must be updated (including the appropriate relationship thereto, e.g.: continuation, divisional, continuation-in-part) on page 1 of the specification. The updated status must include the patent numbers for any patented application. The amendment to the specification, filed July 6, 2004, has not been entered. The instant application is a "continuation" of Serial No. 09/237,557. Serial No. 09/237,557 is a continuation-in-part of Serial No. 08/904,666. The instant application cannot properly claim priority to Serial No. 09/237,556. Applicant must provide a complete recitation of the parent applications.

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Debra S Meislin whose telephone number is 703 308-3671. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F, alt. Fridays off.


If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Joseph Hail can be reached on 703 308-2687. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

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A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Debra S Meislin', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Debra S Meislin
Primary Examiner
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September 27, 2004